

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 27, 2008 08-20 Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

691 Scenic View Dr. PO Box 1507 Page, AZ 86040-1507

CONTACT: Marianne Karraker 928-608-6325

Glen Canyon News Release

Swimmer Disappears on the San Juan River; Presumed Drowned

Page, Ariz. – On the evening of June 25th, National Park Service (NPS) dispatch received a report that a person had drowned on the San Juan River near the Navajo Reservation. The location was identified as downstream of Piute Farms within Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Benjamin Saltwater, a 23 year old male from Kayenta, Arizona, had been visiting with friends in the area. Preliminary reports indicate that at approximately 6:00 p.m. (MST), Saltwater entered the river to assist others who were having difficulty swimming. He went under and did not resurface; it is unknown if he was wearing a life jacket. The other four swimmers were able to return to shore and summon help.

Personnel from multiple agencies including the Navajo Police Department, San Juan County Sheriff's Office, and Utah Highway Patrol as well as area emergency medical and fire personnel responded to assist NPS staff. At this time, Saltwater's body has not been recovered.

– www.nps.gov/glca –